

Openingspeech Directeur SIVIS, de heer Victor Jones, ILO/SIVIS symposium 2014

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the opening ceremony of this important symposium on Labour Administration and Decent Work. Our theme is : “Understanding Labour Administration and the Role of Trade Unions.”

It is one year now that we did the kickoff activities in the frame work of the 45 years anniversary of SIVIS. This symposium is the highest point of our activities. 45 year SIVIS and we have 45 participants. We started the kickoff with two friends of Curaçao and today after one year we have 11 friends from Aruba in the same room here together. Unfortunately our friends of Curaçao could not make it to be here.

Let me give you a special welcome to Suriname, especially those who visit Suriname for the first time.

I have visited a conference on Occupational Safety and Health a couple of months ago at Curaçao together with Mrs. Etnel, and during that conference I met a lady named Gina Maduro. We exchanged numbers and addresses, and shortly thereafter she was willing to represent SIVIS in Aruba and today Aruba is here with a delegation of 11 participants, as I mentioned before, the first time in history. Will you please stand up Mrs. Gina and let us put hands together for Mrs. Gina for her tremendous job towards SIVIS.

May I also invite the chairman of the Police Union of Aruba, Mr. Davelaar, to stand up. I don't know his secret, maybe it is a police secret, but he managed it to be here with the largest delegation of a union (6 persons). Also for him a applause.

The process to get Mrs. Paula sitting here was not an easy one. The rules and regulations of the ILO are becoming more strictly. After discussions we came to the ultimate theme:

“Understanding Labour Administration and the Role of Trade Unions.”

As you see Mrs. Paula is sitting so quietly at the head table, she is not a stranger in the house, she is very well known in Suriname.

Paula, you could read it on my face how happy I was, when we met at the airport, because we both know what we have gone through, to have this symposium running. We have done it and we will make it happen. Thank you sister Paula for your full support towards SIVIS.

If I should ask you what is Labour Administration I am sure I will hear different answers.

I think Labour Administration comprises all public activities related to the formulation, implementation, control and evaluation of national labour policy, everything effecting the social partners in their common relationship.

If you agree with me or not it will be very important to look at it and understand what it really means and what is the role of the social partners, especially the trade movements.

It is important to know what a Labour Administration System is and how it works. It is important to know all aspects of Labour Administration. What is the content of the Labour Administration Convention.

It is important to know what Decent Work is.

It is important to know why Decent Work is so important.

What is the Decent Work Agenda of the International Labour Organization?

During this 2 days you will also discuss all related matters and conventions.

Dear participants, with full enthusiasm I am looking forward for the results coming out of this symposium and I wish you all a fruitful symposium.

Thank you !!

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